

Rev. Amos A. Phelps.  
New York City.



Andrew Loring,  
Boston Apr 10/46



who have expressed a desire that it should be reviewed.  
You will excuse the liberty I have taken I am assured.

On Fast day Rev Mr Kirk preached on slavery. He took the ground of Dr Beecher, though he treated abolitionists much more severely. Represented Christians as joining with anti-church and ministry men and fighting the battles of liberty under the banner of infidelity, and that too without making any distinction between old and new organisations.

I received the Jan. and Feb. numbers of your paper, but have seen none since. I wish you would hereafter direct to care of Isaac Cushing No 20 Washington Street, Boston.

You will perceive by the Report that our office is removed to Goly's Buildings, same room as the Colonization office, so that we have the company of Rev. Joseph Tracy;

Yours most respectfully  
Andrew Cushing



Nothing is said of the fact that the major part of the church members, Sabbath School scholars and members of the congregation were before the special effort connected with other churches, schools, and congregations - nor yet of the important fact that for two years at least a lay effort has been made to gather a nucleus with which a minister might commence.

No one objects to the formation of new churches in which the rich and poor shall meet together, but whether it is best for the City Miss. Society to undertake that work is questionable.

What are those "many valuable labors which are not proper for laymen to do?" The fact is if things go on for a few years longer as heretofore it will not be proper for ordinary laymen or even deacons to lead the devotions of their brethren. Indeed if we have family prayers we shall be obliged to use a liturgy perhaps prepared by a great synod in 1848.

This Report is now before the public and is exciting considerable attention. It is following up the efforts of certain men in their opposition to colportage. I know that you are perfectly conversant with the matter, and is it too much to ask you to devote an hour in strictures upon it in the Boston Recorder? It would be a great gratification to me and many others



Boston, April 15<sup>th</sup> 1846.

Rev. M. Phelps,

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty to send you a copy of the last annual report of our Society, and to call your attention especially to the paragraphs on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> pages. You will observe that it is proposed to make a gradual and partial change of agents from lay to clerical; while the reasoning by which this decision is sustained goes to shut out lay agents entirely.

It is true that other denominations employ clergymen to act as missionaries, and gather churches among the poor. Of the Unitarians and Episcopalians it may be said that they in effect shut out the poor from their aristocratic churches, so that such efforts are necessary, but the Orthodox churches contain more poor people than their churches and chapels united. Besides these denominations have no system of tract distribution and neighborhood meetings to be sustained which constitute a large part of our effort.

The capital advantage spoken of at the bottom of the 10<sup>th</sup> page is, in its connexion a gross misrepresentation